

South Carolina Opens The CTS Challenge Campaign

The Columbia Challenge Campaign is underway in the Synod of South Carolina. Major items in the \$1.2 million goal are endowment for faculty support and student financial aid and air conditioning housing so Columbia can operate a full 12-month program.

Pledges for the years 1972, 1973, and 1974 (set by the synod) will be solicited during the remainder of 1971. Presbytery and area information meetings will be conducted for representatives from each congregation during October and November by presbytery leaders and seminary staff and faculty members. These meetings will provide the facts for each church's session to make the decision about their participation.

The challenge campaign is South Carolina's share of Columbia's current \$5 million development effort. Gifts made in this campaign (as those in Columbia's other supporting synods) qualify for matching gifts. In this program, made possible by a friend of the seminary, the seminary will receive \$1.00 of matching gifts money for every \$4.00 raised.

According to the Rev. Steve Bacon, Columbia's vice president for development, there will be opportunities for designated and special gifts, such as to the J. McDowell Richards' Fund for Graduate and Continuing Education.

FACULTY AND STAFF CONSIDER NEW PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE

Plans for the new Doctor of Ministry degree (a professional doctorate) were the major item considered by the 37 faculty, staff, and student leaders attending the annual faculty retreat in September.

Meeting at the Georgia Baptist Assembly, Toccoa, Sept. 8-10, the group conducted normal faculty business and spent seven sessions hearing the report of the D. Min. committee, discussing and acting upon it.

The original committee (Professors Cousar, Gailey, Kline, and Riviere) presented the report and distributed a curriculum proposal. Small groups of the entire body and groupings by academic areas considered the proposal and reported back to subsequent general sessions. In following discussion, concern was expressed for the tight structure of certain

areas of the proposed curriculum and for the confusing philosophy of its approach to the individual and communal character of the Church and its ministry.

The faculty requested the committee to consider their proposals in light of the discussion about them. It also referred the proposed curriculum to the instructional areas for changes and specific course designs and objectives. Both of these activities are to be reported to the faculty by Oct. 15.

President Kline announced the reconstituted D. Min. committee: Prof. Gailey, chairman; Profs. Cousar, Person, Riviere, Taylor; named from the areas — Profs. Ormond (Biblical), Guthrie (historical-doctrinal), and McDill (pastoral); students James McLain and William Bryant; and a member of the Board of Directors to be secured by the president.

FESTIVITIES HONOR RICHARDS

Students, Alumni, friends, and fellow pastors paid tribute to President James McDowell Richards in the weeks immediately preceding his retirement from 39 years of service to Columbia Seminary.

Students, faculty, and staff gathered in the Student Center on Thurs., May 27, for a dessert party for the Richards and the presentation of a tape recorder to aid Dr. Richards in his writing tasks. Prof. Wade P. Huie paraphrased the first chapter of Philippians as an expression of appreciation for Dr. Richards.

The Atlanta Theological Association, at its April 19 meeting, presented him with a resolution praising him for "vision and energy over two decades".

During the June meeting of the General Assembly, Dr. Richards was lauded for his years of service to theological education. The report of the Standing Committee on Educational Institutions "extended gratitude to him for his long and effective service" to the Church. Also during the assembly, he was honored as one of the four previous moderators of the General Assembly who were attending the Massanetta Springs sessions.

All five of the seminary's supporting synods honored him at their spring meet-

ings. Alabama: The Rev. John Newton, minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Selma, read a tribute. Florida: The Rev. Oswald Delgado of Winter Park presented a tribute during a special order. Georgia: Board of Directors Chairman J. Davison Phillips, gave a tribute. Mississippi: a resolution was offered by The Rev. Dwyn Mounger. South Carolina: a silver tray, inscribed with the dates of his presidency, was presented by Synod Executive Arthur Martin. (The seminary was located in South Carolina for nearly 100 years.)

At the June 25 Atlanta appreciation dinner for Dr. Richards, the Rev. Dr. J. Davison Phillips, chairman of the Board of Directors announced several gifts through the board to Dr. Richards: a color television set, assumption of the mortgage on their new home on Kirk Road, a Dodge Dart given by an anonymous friend, a trip to Great Britain and the European Continent, which they plan to make in the spring of 1972, and a paid-up ten-year endowment annuity.

The Richards have now moved into their home, and Dr. Richards began in August an interim pastorate at Hillside Presbyterian Church, Decatur.





FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is my first opportunity to say a personal word to the readers of *Inform*, and I want first of all to say thank you for the kind expressions of congratulations and support I have received from you over the last months. That has been one of the wonderful things that has happened to me. Another has been to be present at all the occasions to honor President-Emeritus Richards, for I have seen heart-warming appreciation for a man and his ministry and heard illuminating reminiscences about the seminary and all it has meant to countless ministers and lay men and women.

June 1971 marked the end of an era in the life of the seminary. It has been an incredibly rich era, full of accomplishment: campus building, endowment growth, faculty expansion, the largest number of ministers prepared in any period of time in the history of the seminary. It has been an era of change: change in the world, in the Church, in the seminary. Columbia Seminary was founded to lead the Church onto a changing frontier. It moved to Atlanta after a century to be more nearly at the center of a changing society. Through the last 39 years that change has accelerated in society, Church, and seminary. Dr. Richards was never afraid of change, and he saw that the seminary kept pace.

So as we start a new era we can build on a heritage that honors the past, responds to the present, and welcomes the future. That is a truly Reformed point of view: reformed and ever reforming. That is, above all, a Biblical point of view: where what God has done is the key to what God is doing, and what God is doing now is the earnest of what God will do in His future.

Trusting in God who is revealed in Scripture, attested in the Reformed faith, present in the Church and the world, we set out on a new course in the life of Columbia Seminary.

Alvin S. Jepson



Gunn



Meister

WINTER TERM VISITING PROFS JOHN MEISTER, GEORGE GUNN

Two church leaders have been named Visiting Instructors in Professional Ministry for the winter quarter.

The Rev. George W. Gunn, campus minister at the University of Arkansas, and the Rev. John W. Meister, executive secretary of the United Presbyterian Council on Theological Education, will be on campus to teach and meet informally with students in an effort to integrate classroom learning and the practical aspects of ministry.

Mr. Gunn, a graduate of Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and Davidson College, has also studied at Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He was campus minister at the University of Georgia from 1950 to 1954, and minister of the First Presbyterian Church of

Arkadelphia, Ark., 1954-60. He is presently chairman of the education committee of the Presbytery of the Ozarks, and moderator-in-nomination of the Synod of Arkansas-Oklahoma. This past year (1970-71), he was president of the National Campus Ministry Association.

A pastor for 26 years before joining the Council on Theological Education, Mr. Meister has been a member of many denominational and ecumenical boards and agencies. He has authored *What Baptism Means* and more than 50 articles in various religious publications, and co-authored *Spiritual Renewal Through Personal Groups* with John Casteel. He received an A. B. from Ohio University, and a B. Th. from Princeton Theological Seminary.

New CFC Staff Meets President



Mrs. Albert Kleckner (seated), president of the Columbia Friendship Circle, met recently with the Rev. Alvin S. Jepson (l) and Secretary Lillian Weaver (r) of the office staff.

Mrs. Kleckner, a deacon in First Presbyterian Church of Athens, was secretary-historian in 1970-71 for the CFC, and has supported its work previously as synodical president for Georgia. "Women will become excited about this newest effort in graduate and continuing education when they think of the possibilities for their own ministers and what it can mean, then, in the life of their own churches," she said.

Active in organizing and serving Athens volunteer agencies, Mrs. Kleckner has also held many church offices. She has been president of her local Women of the Church, Athens Presbyterial president, has been named to the permanent committee on Georgia home (Montreat), and has served on a sub-committee of the Synod of Georgia Council.

Mrs. Weaver, development office secretary since August, served eight years as director of interpretation and promo-

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Five Named "Outstanding"

Five Columbia Seminary professors are listed in the current volume of Outstanding Educators of America.

C. Benton Kline, Jr., Samuel A. Cartledge, Thomas H. McDill, Wade P. Huie, Jr., and James H. Gailey, Jr., were selected on the basis of their teaching and administrative abilities, contributions to research, civic service, and professional recognition.

The Outstanding Educators of America program annually honors educators for their exceptional service, achievements and leadership.

Dr. Kline is president of Columbia and professor of theology. Dr. Cartledge is professor of New Testament language, literature, and exegesis. Dr. McDill is professor of pastoral theology and counseling. Dr. Huie occupies the Peter Marshall Chair of Homiletics. Dr. Gailey is professor of Old Testament language, literature and exegesis. They are part of a teaching faculty of 20.

STUDENTS AT "CELEBRATION"

Five Columbia students were scheduled to attend A Celebration of Evangelism in Cincinnati, O., Sept. 20-24, when this newsletter went to press.

James Watson, Ernest Johnson, John Sloop, William Bryant, and Tom Aycock are being excused from Columbia's introductory term to represent the seminary at the conference.

It is the hope of the planners that the five-day session will encourage "the awakening to a new and exciting personal faith" expressed in many new forms. "The changes in the church today are perhaps more significant than those during the Protestant Reformation. There is a new breed of Christian, more first century in nature than at any other time in history," they have stated in the introductory brochure.

Sponsoring groups are the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the Board of National Ministries of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., the General Program Council of the Reformed Church in America, and the Board of National Missions of the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

FACULTY

PROFILE

A. Milton Riviere

An early student preaching post helped crystalize Milton Riviere's concern for helping men and women learn how to put into practice in their ministries the "book learning" of theology, Bible study, and church history and doctrine.

The journey from planning to teach Old Testament to the present juncture as dean of ministry development, has had some unexpected way stations.

Mr. Riviere spent a year as student supply at tiny (15-member) Woodson Presbyterian Church south of Little Rock, Arkansas, between finishing college (with an A.B.) at Wheaton and entering Princeton Seminary in 1955 to begin work on his B.D. That experience helped him realize the importance of the so-called "practical courses" that are so often met with disdain.

Planning to take a graduate degree to prepare for teaching Old Testament on the seminary level, Mr. Riviere accepted a call to All Souls Church, Scott, Arkansas, intending it to be an interim period between seminary and graduate school. He was soon appointed to the synod Christian education committee, and, two years later, was asked to assume the office of regional director. Still committed to teaching Old Testament, he, nevertheless, accepted that position because he felt there he could learn more about the Church in just a few years than he could in a lifetime elsewhere.

The Rev. Harvard Anderson was synod executive, and the two had "as truly a team ministry as any experience in my career". (Mr. Anderson is now Florida synod executive, and the two are again fellow presbyters — in St. Johns Presbytery.) For both of them, there was a sense of dealing with the whole picture, and of concern for the whole Church. During this period, the see-saw was shifting towards Christian education for Mr. Riviere, even though he felt his goal was still Old Testament teaching. "Looking back, I am sure this re-direction was influenced by a very live enjoyment of people where they actually were in their own growth in faith and in the Church," he says now.

When Mr. Riviere decided to take advantage of a study leave plan that was made available by the Board of Christian Education, he realized he was much more interested in Christian education than in Old Testament, so he enrolled in a joint Ed. D. program with Union Seminary



(New York) and Columbia Teachers College.

This is another point where his concern for the ministry of the Church at the local church level was becoming more evident, and showing that his basic commitment is to the Church and to whatever he can do to help others serve it with something of the excitement he feels about it.

In April of 1966 he accepted Columbia's invitation to join the faculty that fall as associate professor of Christian education. Columbia, at that time, was the only Presbyterian, US, seminary to have a Christian educator on its staff with Board of Christian Education background and understanding, and with work in graduate education.

Shortly after joining the faculty, he was named to the STD planning committee, and, when the Urban Training Program was started the next year, he was part of that original committee, too. For the past year, he has been part of the committee exploring the Doctor of Ministry degree as the first professional degree (see p. 1 story).

Although the course hours for his Ed. D. degree are now completed, he is still working on his dissertation, with all the stresses and strains of trying to produce this kind of work while teaching and carrying other faculty and administrative responsibilities.

While his Arkansas regional directorship in Christian education was an administrative post, his satisfaction in training men for ministry went far beyond his administrative duties. So it seems familiar that, six years later, he is responsible for continuing education as part of his new position as dean of ministry development.

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Bass Evaluates Field Students

The Rev. J. Richard Bass, Columbia Seminary's Director of Field Education, this summer instituted the in-field evaluation program for field education students at Columbia.

The 46 men and their supervising pastors were visited by Mr. Bass, or by the Rev. Dr. Jack B. McMichael, associate professor of Christian education and church administration, or the Rev. James Richardson, director of admissions.

Each of the students was involved in general church work on a full-time basis for a ten-week period during the summer. The men had assignments in churches and church-related organizations in Georgia (24), Alabama (5), Florida (2), Mississippi (1), South Carolina (3), Louisiana (1), North Carolina (4), Texas (1), Pennsylvania (1), Maryland (1), and Virginia (1).

The field education experience is a requirement for the M. Div. degree.

ALUMNUS PRINTS PRAYER-POEMS

The Rev. Herbert B. Barks, Jr., has written a book of prayer-poems under the title of "Words are No Good if the Game is Solitaire". He graduated from Columbia in 1959, and holds the M. Div. degree. This past summer he was named a successor to his father as headmaster of the Baylor School for Boys in Chattanooga. Since 1967 he had been senior pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Lunchburg, Va. Previous pastorates have been in Glendale, Calif., Chattanooga, Tenn., and Shreveport, La.

Faculty Notes...

J. Will Ormond preached for the ordinations of James O. Watkins at Stockbridge, Ga. (June), and of Tommie Malone at Westminster Church, Spartanburg, S. C. (Aug.), and, at press time, was scheduled to preach for the ordination of Gary Bryant, First Church, Lumberton (Sept.). The three men being ordained all received Master of Divinity degrees from Columbia in June. Mr. Ormond addressed the Women of the Church for the Synod of Alabama on "God Rules Right in the Middle of Now," and taught the class on Philipians for the Decatur (Ga.) Presbyterian Church's Family School. During July he attended the American Summer Institute at St. Andrews (Scotland) and preached at the MacIntosh Memorial Church in Fort William, Scotland. The first three Sundays in August he preached at the Wellington Church in Glasgow, and the following Sunday preached at the First Church in Anniston, Ala.

Dean McKee spent the summer traveling in Iran, Lebanon, Egypt, Cyprus, Israel, and Turkey. Research on General Assembly sermons on the Viet Nam war occupied Hurbert V. Taylor during the summer. In August he worked with United Presbyterian Mass Media preparing spots to be filmed in Israel in October and three fifteen-minute films on the Holy Land.

During July, Ludwig M. Dewitz was Bible leader for a Young Life staff conference in Colorado Spring. In June he had spoken on "Isaiah" before the Alabama Synodical, given the banquet address for the Hebrew Christian Alliance Conference in Detroit, preached twice, and wrote the "Brief Report from the USA" column on the race question for the Swiss magazine, *Messenger of Faith*.

RIVIERE—(from p. 2)

He has gained a heightened sense of the need for men and women to be trained for professional ministry, and not just furnished with the classical background for ministry. Building on this, he feels the seminary has to move toward training for the growing, helping kinds of ministries. It has to help ministers become functionally competent in addition to being academically prepared. "And this is the aim of the seminary's programs of field education and supervised ministry."

The vortex of changing styles and needs in a rapidly-moving world means that we must train people to be learners and not answer-givers. "Thus, our continuing education program is an available resource as needs and demands evolve in different forms," he says.

With a quiet intensity, Mr. Riviere voices his hope that "with functional concerns, there could be developed a healthy affirmation of the Church as a viable context for the work and mission of God among His people. He obviously sees this as counter-balancing the mindset of some seminary graduates who view institutional structures as a necessary evil.

He sees three primary thrusts of this new deanship: 1) help students combine functional competencies with academic studies, 2) supervised ministry and graduate studies, and 3) improved means of making available the seminary's leadership resources to professional and lay leaders of the Church-at-large.

A. Milton Riviere has a compelling enthusiasm for the chance to help ministers and their churches bring an excitement to the world in the changeless Christ and his Gospel.

CFC—(from p. 2)

tion for the Board of Womens Work. A Decatur resident, she is a member of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, where she has taught high school church school.



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